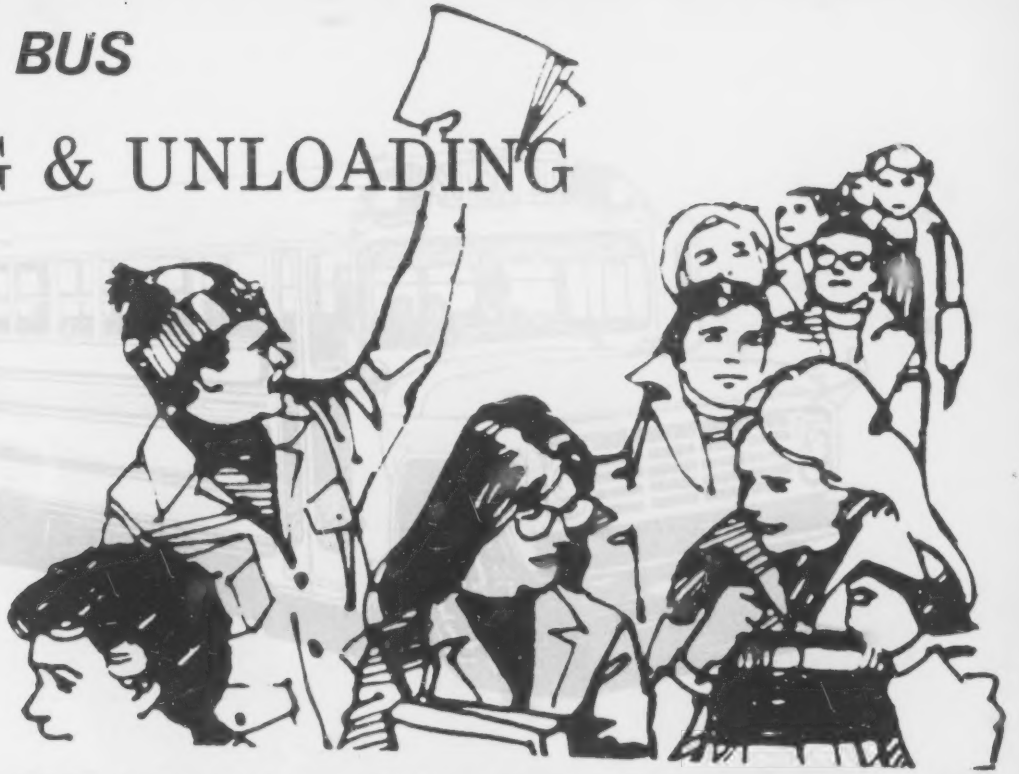
S 3010-2-4

SCHOOL BUS

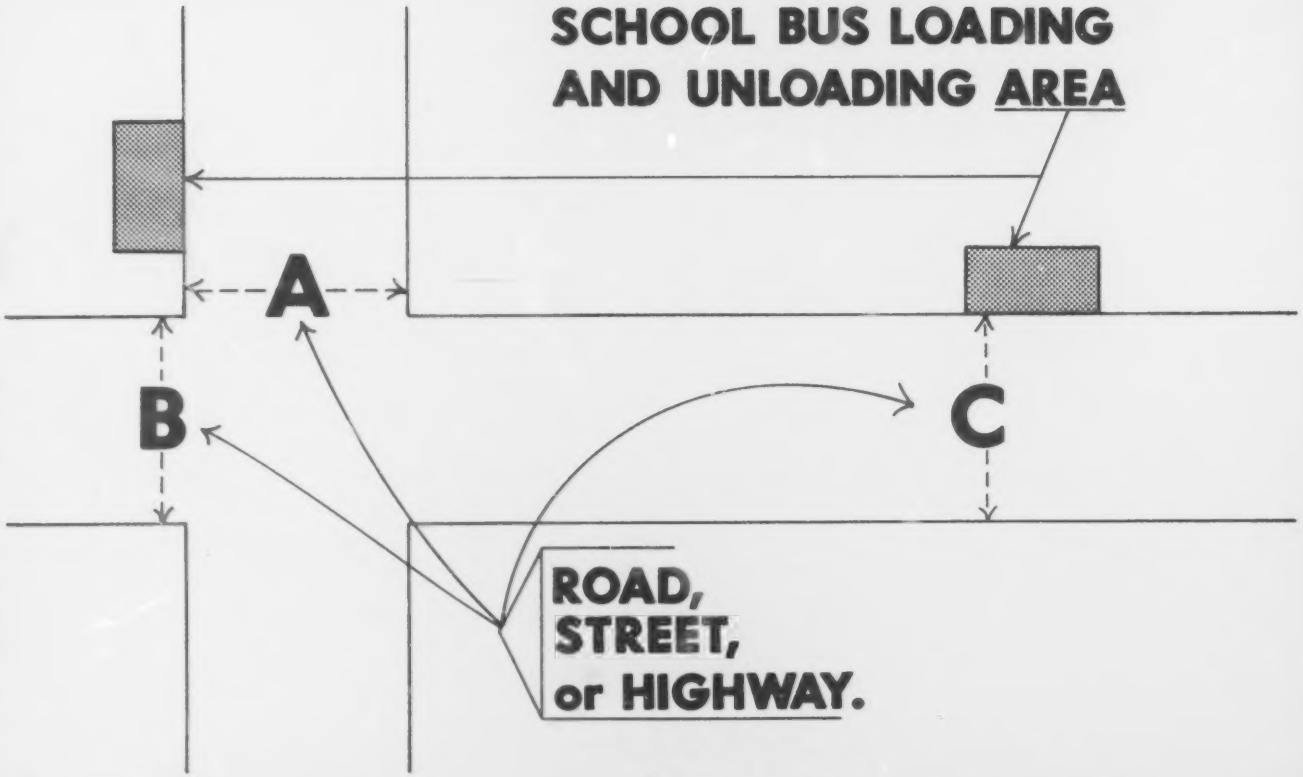
LOADING & UNLOADING

SURVEY



CALENDAR YEAR 1984 SCHOOL YEAR 84-85

The National School Bus Loading and Unloading Survey is a collection of fatality accident records provided by the state agencies responsible for school transportation safety and/or accident records. Only those fatality accidents involving school children in or around the loading or unloading areas of a school bus are included in this survey. On-board fatalities are excluded, as are pedestrian-type fatalities that occur when the school bus is not in the near vicinity at the time of the accident.


SCHOOL BUS LOADING
AND UNLOADING AREA
A
B
C
ROAD,
STREET,
or HIGHWAY.

50 States and Washington, D.C. surveyed

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Number reporting fatalities.....	19	17	24	22
Number reporting no fatalities.....	31	33	25	26
Number not reporting	1	1	2	3

School Children Killed by School Bus

Childs position when killed

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Front of Bus	19	12	15	15
Back of Bus	7	5	8	6
Total	26	17	23	21

School Children Killed by Vehicle Passing School Bus

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Total	11	11	8	7
No Information	0	0	0	2
Total Children Killed	37	28	31	30

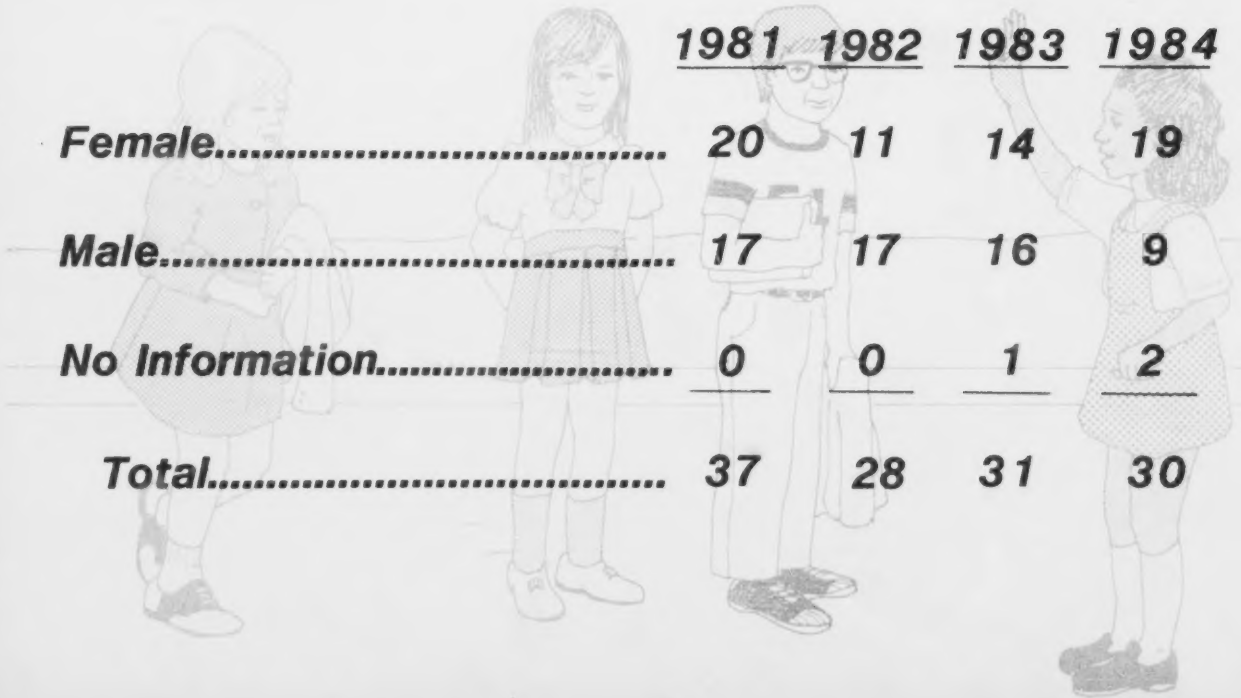
(school bus & other vehicle)

Light Condition	1981	1982	1983	1984
Dawn	0	1	2	1
Dusk	0	0	0	0
Daylight	36	27	28	27
Dark	1	0	1	0
Unknown	0	0	0	2
Total	37	28	31	30

School Bus Size	1981	1982	1983		1984
Type I (Large Bus)	37	27	31	TYPE A	11
Type II (Small Bus).....	0	1	0	TYPE B	1
Unknown	0	0	0	TYPE C	7
Total	37	28	31	TYPE D	4
				UNK.	7
				TOTAL	30

Sex of Child

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Female	20	11	14	19
Male	17	17	16	9
No Information	0	0	1	2
Total	37	28	31	30

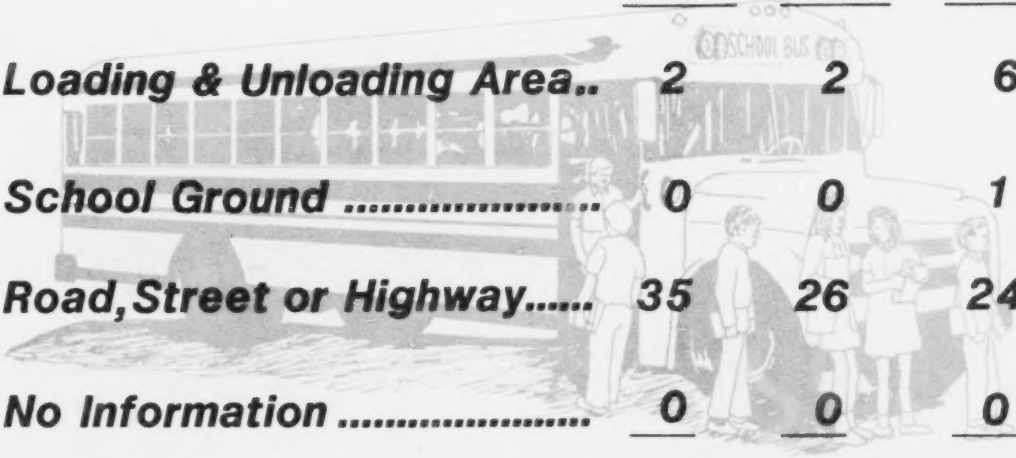


School Children Killed

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Going to School.....	9	6	6	5
Activity Trip.....	0	0	0	0
Coming Home.....	28	22	25	21
No Information.....	0	0	0	4
Total.....	37	28	31	30

Place Pupil Was Killed

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Loading & Unloading Area..	2	2	6	15
School Ground	0	0	1	1
Road, Street or Highway.....	35	26	24	12
No Information	0	0	0	2
Total.....	37	28	31	30



Age of Pupil Killed

	1981	1982	1983	1984
5 Years Old or Under	12	7	8	3
6 Years Old.....	7	4	5	8
7 Years Old.....	7	4	4	5
8 Years Old.....	3	5	4	3
9 Years Old.....	3	2	4	0
10-17 Years Old.....	5	6	5	8
No Information.....	0	0	1	3
Total.....	37	28	31	30

Area Accident Occurred

	1981	1982	1983	1984
Urban.....	16	15	15	11
Rural.....	21	13	16	15
No Information.....	0	0	0	4
Total.....	37	28	31	30

Weather Conditions	1981	1982	1983	1984
Clear	31	26	26	22
Cloudy	5	1	2	2
Rain	1	0	0	0
Snow/Sleet/Ice	0	1	1	2
Fog	0	0	2	1
Unknown	0	0	0	3
Total	37	28	31	30

DAY OF THE WEEK FATALITY OCCURRED

1984 (Only)

MONDAY	3
TUESDAY	1
WEDNESDAY	4
THURSDAY	7
FRIDAY	9
SATURDAY	0
SUNDAY	0
UNKNOWN	6

SCHOOL
SCHOOL
SPEED
LIMIT
20
WHEN
FLASHING
8:30 A.M.
TO 5:30 P.M
STOP
WHEN
CHILDREN
ARE PRESENT
R R
SCHOOL
SCHOOL
SPEED
LIMIT
20
WHEN
CHILDREN
ARE PRESENT
WHEN
FLASHING
SCHOOL
BUS STOP
AHEAD

MONTH FATAL ACCIDENT OCCURRED

	1981	1982	1983	1984
JANUARY	4	4	1	4
FEBRUARY	3	3	4	4
MARCH	7	1	4	5
APRIL	5	2	3	2
MAY	3	0	4	5
JUNE	0	0	0	1
JULY	0	0	0	0
AUGUST	0	2	0	0
SEPTEMBER	1	2	1	3
OCTOBER	4	7	6	1
NOVEMBER	5	3	5	1
DECEMBER	2	1	2	2
NO INFORMATION	3	3	1	2
TOTAL	37	28	31	30

ACCIDENT SUMMARY REPORT

1. The driver of a vehicle passes through the stop arm and alternately flashing red lights of a school bus that was stopped to discharge students at a regularly scheduled stop. The fatality occurred as the student was crossing in front of the school bus. (7 yr. old female)

2. The students exited the bus and crossed the street in front of the bus. The driver was distracted a moment, looked in the mirrors (including the crossover mirror) and saw nothing. The driver started the bus forward. The child was underneath the bus, in front of the left front wheel. The bus moved approximately 18 inches with the left front wheel passing over the child. (6 yr. old female)

3. Three children exited the bus, two going around the front and one going around the rear. The child going around the rear slipped or fell under the right rear wheel and was run over. (8 yr. old male)

4. Child slipped or fell and was run over by the right rear wheel. (5 yr. old female)

5. The school bus was stopped at a loading area and the ignition wires began to spark and smoke; thus, the engine would not start. The bus driver went to call for another bus at a nearby residence. The bus started rolling down a slight negative grade. The students started jumping out of the entrance. The victim jumped as the bus swerved to the right off the shoulder and the right wheels ran over the victim. (7 yr. old female)

6. At a regular stop on the bus route one boy and two girls exited the bus. One girl usually crosses the street in front of the bus and the other two children stay on the side of the street which they exit the bus from. The driver became involved in a conversation with the mother of the boy concerning the child's behavior on the bus. When ready to leave the stop the driver shut off the amber and red flashing light system, checked the mirrors and proceeded forward. The driver felt a bump and several cars were blowing their horns. The driver then stopped the bus and saw the child lying in the roadway. The bus was noisy with the 14 or 15 remaining passengers and the driver stated that the crossover mirror moves out of adjustment all the time. (6 yr. old female)

7. Three students exited the bus at a regular stop. The driver observed the students begin to talk on the sidewalk and after waiting an undetermined amount of time, shut off the warning lights and checked all the mirrors (including the crossover mirror). The driver then moved the bus forward not knowing that the incident took place until looking in the rearview mirror. The child had been struck by the front of the bus. (5 yr. old female)

8. Oncoming vehicle was unable to stop for a child that was being unloaded from a school bus. (5-9 yr. old female)

9. Child was struck by a dump truck loaded with 25 tons of lime as child departed the bus.

10. Child was struck by an out of control pick up truck while waiting in front of house for the bus to arrive.

11. Child darted between school buses parked in the school drive into the path of an approaching school bus.

12. Child was struck by an approaching auto while waiting in front of her house for the bus to arrive.

13. A student departed the bus. The student dropped a book - the bus driver did not see the student and started the bus in motion. The student was struck by the front of the bus. (15 yr. old female)

14. The student exited the bus, darted across the front of the bus and was struck by a passing school bus. (10 yr. old male)

15. One bus was stopped for another (oncoming) school bus discharging passengers. When the stop arm of the bus discharging passengers was pulled in the driver of the other bus started forward. The driver then felt a bump and stopped the bus. The bus had hit a student who had exited one bus and then crossed in front of both busses. (10 yr. old male)

16. A child was struck by the right rear wheel of a school bus. (7 yr. old male)

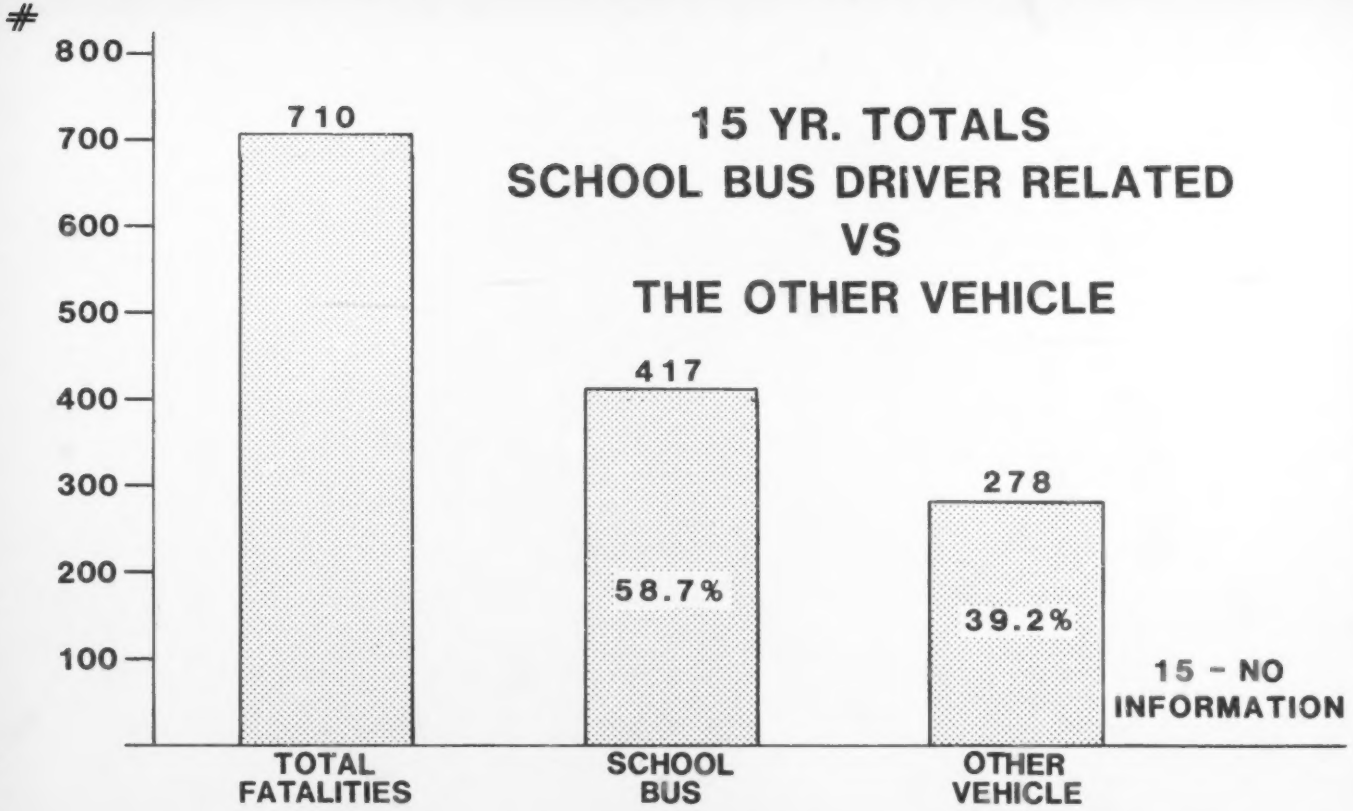
17. 23 students were discharged at a five-way intersection. The Driver who was facing a stop sign, was distracted by traffic approaching from the left. The student, near the front of the bus, was waiting for an older sister to disembark. The sister, who was already on the other side of the street, called to the student at the same moment the driver closed the door, started forward and turned right. The student was knocked down by the front of the bus and run over by the right rear dual wheels. (6 yr. old female)

18. School bus was eastbound, stopped and let off 4 students. The bus continued east about 10 feet and turned onto a north-south road. The bus ran over a pedestrian at the intersection of the two roads. (5 yr. old female)

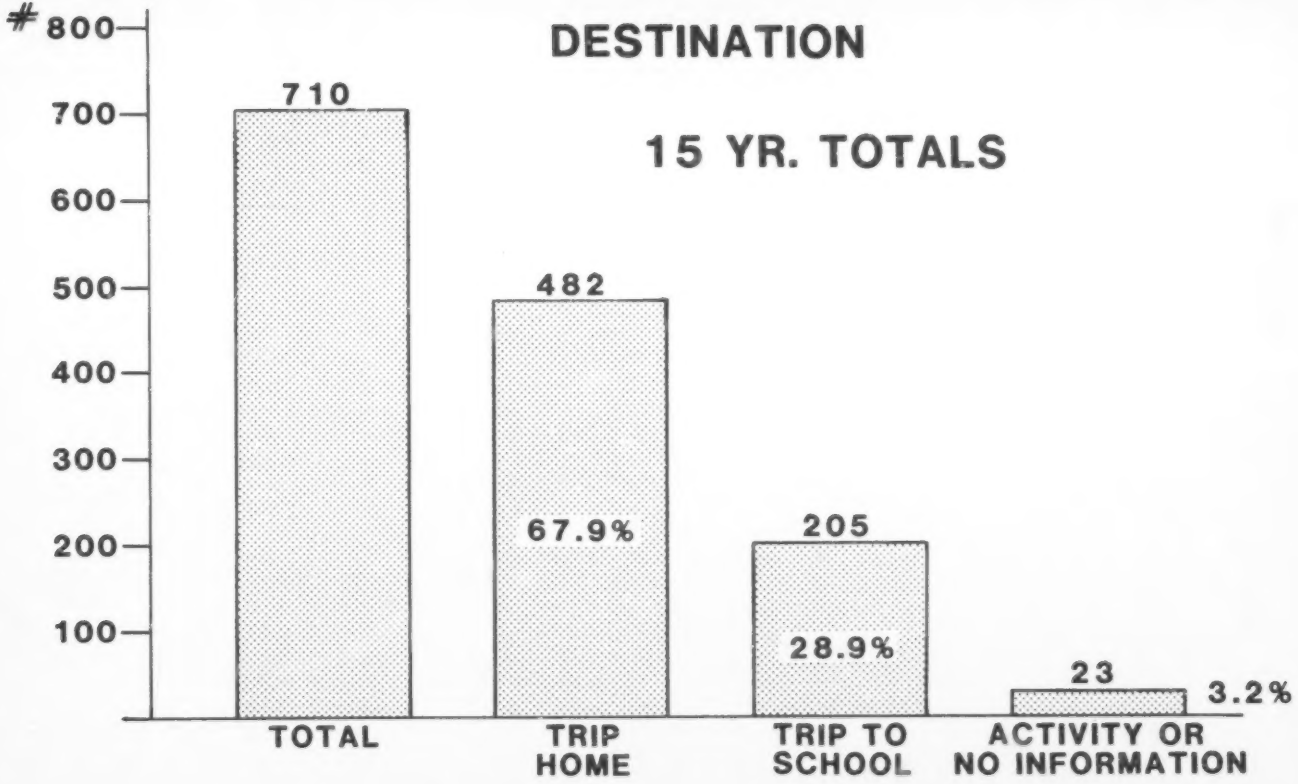
19. In both accidents the students got off the bus and walked around in front. The school bus driver did not see the children in front of the bus and ran over them. (5 yr. old male/6 yr. old female)

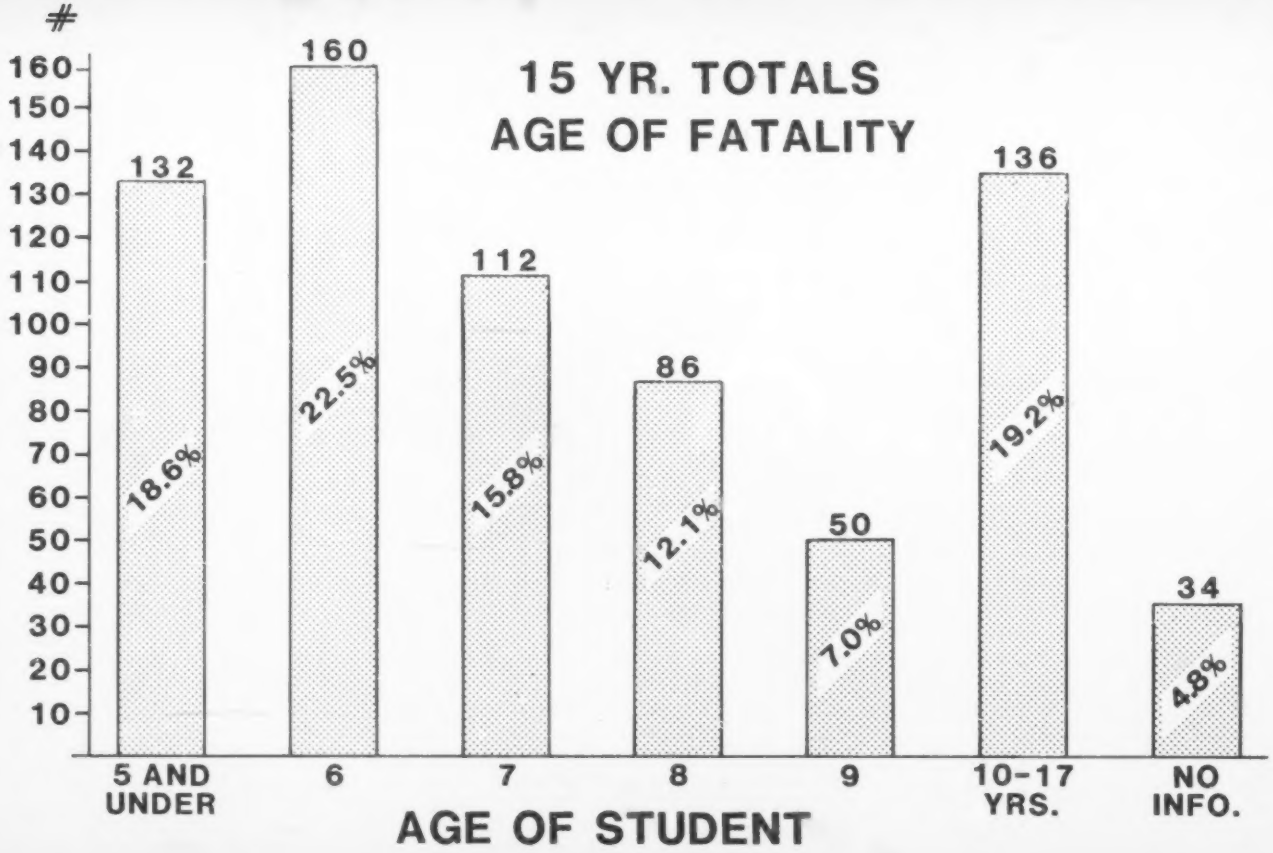
20. The student was at the bus stop and was hit by a passing automobile. The school bus was not at the stop at the time of the accident. (13 yr. old male)

THE ABOVE SUMMARY REPORTS WERE THOSE THAT HAD SUFFICIENT INFORMATION REPORTED TO INCLUDE IN THIS REPORT. THERE ARE ALSO AN OVERALL TYPICAL REPRESENTATION OF THE FATALITY ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED.



15 YR. TOTALS
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER RELATED
VS
THE OTHER VEHICLE


DESTINATION
15 YR. TOTALS
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
710
482
67.9%
205
28.9%
23
3.2%
TOTAL
TRIP HOME
TRIP TO SCHOOL
ACTIVITY OR NO INFORMATION


#
160
150
140
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
15 YR. TOTALS
AGE OF FATALITY
132
160
112
86
50
136
34
18.6%
22.5%
15.8%
12.1%
7.0%
19.2%
4.8%
5 AND UNDER
6
7
8
9
10-17 YRS.
NO INFO.
AGE OF STUDENT

SUMMARY

- *490 fatalities occurred to students 5, 6, 7 & 8 yrs. of age, or 69.0% of total.*
- *Students departing bus on way home involved in 67.9% of all fatalities in the study.*
- *School bus related accidents outnumber those involving "the other vehicle"*
- *In the 80,-84 calendar years, the school bus was involved in 69.2% of the accidents or 108 of the 156 fatalities that occurred.*

This survey is provided annually to the school transportation industry in an effort to alert individuals and organizations of the dangers involved in loading and unloading school children. Fatalities continue to occur at the bus stop, caused by a variety of circumstances and errors on the part of the school bus driver or a passing motorist. It points out the continuing need for forceful, advanced instruction to school bus drivers, and the need to increase our efforts to thoroughly inform the driving public about the requirements of the school bus stop law.

Limited quantities of this document are available from the address provided below. Please feel free to reproduce and utilize the survey data as desired, as it is provided specifically for this purpose.

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